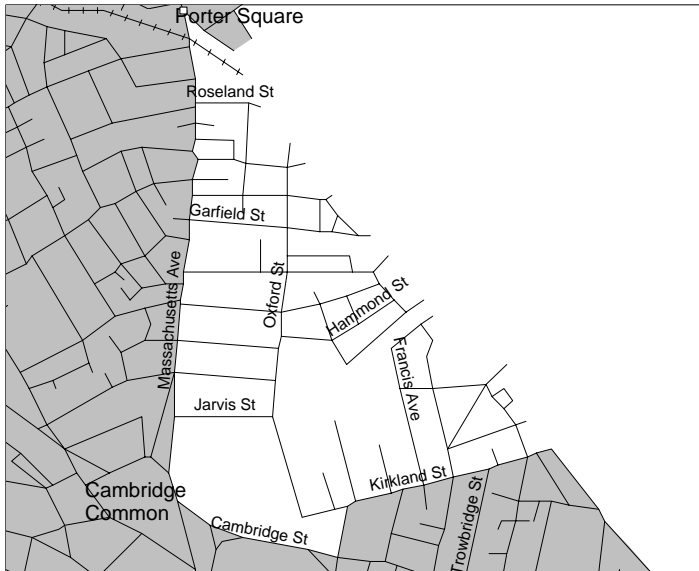
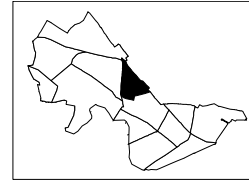


# NEIGHBORHOOD 8

## AGASSIZ



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge Street, Quincy Street, Kirkland Street, and the Somerville border

**POPULATION:** 5,241 residents  
1,891 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$36,853

Neighborhood #8 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It is also covered by walking routes 8A, 8B, and 8C.

### COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, JAN-JUNE 00 - 04

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	8	2	30	5	22
Street Robbery	0	1	1	2	1
Auto Theft	6	9	11	8	3
Larceny from MVs	12	18	18	14	19
Malicious Destruction	11	11	14	5	8
Drug Incidents	0	0	1	1	0

#### 2004 FIRST HALF IN REVIEW

**Housebreaks** and larceny from motor vehicles both increased dramatically in the second quarter in Agassiz compared to the first quarter. • Thirteen housebreaks in May and June with multiple incidents on Wendell and Forest Streets fueled the rise in reports from 5 in the first two-quarter s of 2003 to 22 for the same time period in 2004. A high percentage of these breaks were on Wednesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 10AM to 2PM. Thieves have been gaining entry through unlocked windows or forcing front doors with laptops their favorite target. • The only **street robbery** of the year in Agassiz was on a Friday night late in June. Two robbers approached the male victim and brandished a handgun. The suspects fled in a motor vehicle. This incident is still under investigation. • A pattern of weekend night **larceny from motor vehicles** emerged in late May and continued throughout June. The majority of these incidents were clustered around the intersections of Sacramento, Forest and Oxford Streets. The stereos from Hondas and Toyotas and headlights from Acuras are being pilfered. • All of the **malicious destruction** reports involve damage to motor vehicles. Concentrations of incidents have been identified along Sacramento Street and the 1800 block of Mass Ave. There have been no reports of Graffiti in the Agassiz neighborhood over the first six months of 2004. •

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR AGASSIZ AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	67	8	27	10	9
Street Robbery	11	9	6	10	12
Auto Theft	45	12	19	11	10
Larceny from MVs	47	11	30	11	10
Malicious Destruction	45	11	30	10	13

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Over half of the Agassiz neighborhood is occupied by Harvard University and Lesley College. The rest of the residential population is concentrated primarily in a triangle in the northern section of the neighborhood, capped by bustling Porter Square. A number of businesses line Massachusetts Avenue on Agassiz's west border. *Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the southern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- Agassiz has a significantly lower than average rate for almost every measured crime. Unlike some other neighborhoods, only one of its borders is defined by a major, heavily trafficked avenue. Agassiz ranks as the fourth lowest among Cambridge neighborhoods for **auto theft**, and has the lowest # of **malicious destruction** in the City.
- Juveniles entering the neighborhood from Somerville were suspected in a pattern of **street robberies** in 1996 and 1997; such patterns arise every few years, usually clustered at the intersections of Massachusetts Avenue and Wendell Street or Oxford Avenue and Sacramento Street. These occasional patterns generally occur in the late night on weekends.
- Somerville juveniles have also been associated with occasional tire slashings on Forest Street and Massachusetts Avenue. The **malicious destruction** statistics reflect incidents of spray-painting at Agassiz School.

